

The Joyful Child Hosts Inaugural 5K BRAVE Race & 1K Fun Run January 20th

ALISO VIEJO, CA, USA, December 14, 2017 /EINPresswire.com/ -- WHAT: <u>The</u> Joyful Child announces its first 5K BRAVE Race & 1K Fun Run with chip timing for runners and fun for the whole family.

The Joyful Child Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, is dedicated to preventing crimes against children through programs that educate, empower, and unite families and communities. The Joyful Child was established after fiveyear-old Samantha Runnion was abducted and murdered in July of 2002. This event benefits The Joyful Child's BRAVE Initiative to protect and empower children.



WHO: Aliso Viejo City Mayor, Dave Harrington, will kick-off the BRAVE Race with a fast start and finish on the track of Aliso Niguel High School. Orange County Supervisor Lisa Bartlett will co-

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Erin Runnion

School. Orange County Supervisor Lisa Bartlett will copresent the awards at 9:30am. Erin Runnion, the Founding Director of The Joyful Child and mother of Samantha Runnion, will lead a BRAVE Safety Demonstration for children and families before the 1K Fun Run. Erin said she started The Joyful Child because "It shouldn't take a tragedy to unite a community to protect its children. It's a joy to see everyone come together to show their support for empowering children to be brave and safe." Sponsors include: A Snail's Pace, Time Management, Farmers Insurance – Debbie Nguyen & Daryl Tallon, Creations By Design, MVT Pro, Chick-fil-a, K&S Systems, Antis Roofing, and F45 Training.

WHEN: Saturday, January 20th, 2018. Registration begins at 6:30am; 5K Race starts at 8:00am; 1K starts at 9:15am;

BRAVE Race Expo with community partners will be open from 7:00am - 10:00am.

WHERE: Aliso Niguel High School, 28000 Wolverine Way, Aliso Viejo, CA 92656.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

To coordinate interviews or for more information, please contact Virginia ("V") via email at contact@thejoyfulchild.org. VIsit: <u>www.thejoyfulchild.org</u>

The Joyful Child Foundation's non-profit Federal Tax ID is 55-0794474. In its fifteen years, The Joyful Child has trained over 500 volunteers and provided abuse and abduction prevention education to tens of thousands of children in southern California. In 2013, The Joyful Child launched its BRAVE Initiative to provide a viable model for safety education that can be replicated anywhere. Currently, four school districts have trained BRAVE Teachers who have collectively taught over 20,000 students the Be Brave – Be Safe comprehensive safety education curriculum in the classroom. It takes a community to keep our children safe. #BeBraveBeSafe Visit The Joyful Child Foundation YouTube Channel to hear Erin speak and learn more about the BRAVE Initiative.

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